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Q2718

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:  
**MARIAUD ET AL.**)  
Serial No. Not yet assigned )  
Filing Date: Herewith )  
For: APPARATUS AND METHOD )  
FOR PROCESSING INTERRUPTIONS )  
IN A DATA TRANSMISSION )  
OVER A BUS )

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**DATE OF DEPOSIT:** November 20, 2001

**NAME:** REGAN SAMPSON

SIGNATURE: Cesar Lamp

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Director, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to the calculation of fees and examination of the present application, please enter the amendments and remarks set out below.

In the Claims:

Please cancel Claims 1 to 4.

Please add new Claims 5 to 22.

5. A computer system comprising:
  - a master apparatus; and
  - a slave apparatus for communicating with said master apparatus and communicating via the universal serial bus (USB) protocol, said slave apparatus comprising

a sending/receiving circuit for sending and receiving binary information to and from said master apparatus and supplying status signals based thereon,